

What is Claimed Is:

1. A watercraft comprising:

a hull divided in half lengthwise by a centerline to create a first side and a second side;

5 a deck located on the hull, the deck divided in half lengthwise by the centerline;

a propulsion device carried by the hull for propelling the watercraft;

an engine positioned within the hull, the engine driving the propulsion device;

an air ventilation system for circulating air in the hull of the watercraft, the air

ventilation system comprising:

10 a first pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the first pipe located on the first side of the watercraft; and

a second pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the second pipe located on the first side of the watercraft;

wherein the outlet port of the first pipe and the outlet port of the second pipe are located

15 in a bottom region of the hull on the second side of the watercraft.

2. The watercraft according to claim 1 wherein the air inlet pipe and the second pipe extend substantially side-by-side through the watercraft.

3. The watercraft according to claim 1 wherein the outlet port of the first pipe and the outlet port of the second pipe are located in the bottom third of the hull of the watercraft.

20 4. The watercraft according to claim 3 wherein the outlet port of the first pipe and the outlet port of the second pipe are located next to a fuel tank.

5. The watercraft according to claim 1 wherein the intake port of the first pipe and the intake port of the second pipe are located in the deck above the waterline of the watercraft.

6. The watercraft according to claim 5 wherein the deck has a shroud and the intake port of the first pipe and the intake port of the second pipe are located underneath the shroud.

7. The watercraft according to claim 1 wherein the hull further defines a rider's compartment having at least one seat and a control for the watercraft disposed forwardly of the  
5 seat.

8. The watercraft according to claim 5 wherein the intake port of the first pipe and the intake port of the second pipe are located adjacent to one another.

9. The watercraft according to claim 5 wherein the intake port of the first pipe is located in a bow region of the deck and the intake port of the second pipe is located in a stern region of the  
10 deck.

10. An air ventilation system for circulating air in a hull of a watercraft, the system comprising:

a first pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the first pipe located on the first side of the watercraft; and

15 a second pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the second pipe located on the first side of the watercraft;

wherein the outlet port of the first pipe and the outlet port of the second pipe are located in a bottom region of the hull on the second side of the watercraft.

11. A system according to claim 10 wherein the small vehicle is a personal watercraft  
20 comprising:

a hull divided in half lengthwise by a centerline to create a first side and a second side;

a deck located on the hull, the deck divided in half lengthwise by the centerline;

a propulsion device carried by the hull for propelling the watercraft; and

an engine positioned within the hull, the engine driving the propulsion device.

12. The system according to claim 11 wherein the hull further defines a rider's compartment having at least one seat and a control for the watercraft disposed forwardly of the seat.

13. The system according to claim 11 wherein the first pipe and the second pipe extend 5 substantially side-by-side through the watercraft.

14. The system according to claim 11 wherein the outlet port of the first pipe and the outlet port of the second pipe are located next to a fuel tank.

15. The system according to claim 11 wherein the outlet port of the first pipe and the outlet port of the second pipe are located in the bottom third of the hull of the watercraft.

10 16. The system according to claim 11 wherein the intake port of the first pipe and the intake port of the second pipe are located in the side of the deck above the waterline.

17. The system according to the claim 16 wherein the deck has a shroud and the intake port of the first pipe and the intake port of the second pipe are located underneath the shroud.

18. The watercraft according to claim 16 wherein the intake port of the first pipe and the 15 intake port of the second pipe are located adjacent to one another.

19. The watercraft according to claim 16 wherein the intake port of the first pipe is located in a bow region of the deck and the intake port of the second pipe is located in a stern region of the deck.

20. A watercraft comprising:

20 a hull divided in half lengthwise by a centerline to create a first side and a second side; a deck located on the hull, the deck divided in half lengthwise by the centerline; a propulsion device carried by the hull for propelling the watercraft; an engine positioned within the hull, the engine driving the propulsion device; and

an air ventilation system comprising means for circulating air in the hull of the watercraft.

21. The watercraft according to claim 20 wherein the means for circulating air in the hull of the watercraft comprises:

5        a first pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the first pipe located on the first side of the watercraft; and

      a second pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the second pipe located on the first side of the watercraft;

      wherein the outlet port of the first pipe and the outlet port of the second pipe are located  
10      in a bottom region of the hull on the second side of the watercraft.

22. A watercraft comprising:

      a hull divided in half lengthwise by a centerline to create a first side and a second side;

      a deck located on the hull, the deck divided in half lengthwise by the centerline;

      a propulsion device carried by the hull for propelling the watercraft;

15      an engine positioned within the hull, the engine driving the propulsion device; and

      an air ventilation system consisting of a sole first pipe having an intake port and an outlet  
port,

      the intake port located on the first side of the watercraft and the outlet port located on the  
second side of the watercraft.

20      23. The watercraft according to claim 22 wherein the outlet port of the first pipe is located in  
the bottom third of the hull of the watercraft.

24. The watercraft according to claim 22 wherein the intake port of the first pipe is located in  
a side of the deck above the waterline of the watercraft.

25. The watercraft according to claim 22 wherein the first pipe has multiple outlet ports located on the second side of the watercraft.

26. The watercraft according to claim 22 wherein the first pipe has multiple outlet ports wherein at least one outlet port is located on the second side of the watercraft and at least a  
5 second outlet port is located on the first side of the watercraft.

27. An air ventilation system for circulating air in a hull of a watercraft, the system comprising:

a first pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the first pipe located on a first side of the watercraft;

10 a second pipe having an intake port and an outlet port, the intake port of the second pipe located on the first side of the watercraft;

wherein the outlet port of the first pipe is located on a second side of the watercraft and the outlet port of the second pipe is located on the first side of the watercraft.

28. The system according to claim 27, wherein the intake port of the first pipe and the intake  
15 port of the second pipe are located adjacent to one another.

29. The system according to claim 27 wherein the intake port of the first pipe is located in a bow region of the deck and the intake port of the second pipe is located in a stern region of the deck.